

A photograph of a rock surface covered in ancient petroglyphs. The central focus is a large, rectangular figure with a circular head and a rectangular body. To the left of this figure is a series of horizontal, wavy lines. Below the central figure is a smaller, rectangular figure with a circular head. The rock surface is weathered and textured, with various other smaller petroglyphs visible in the background.

# GLOSSARY

Photo: Steamboat Butte petroglyphs

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# 1 Glossary

**ACCRETED:** Accreted lands are those lands that have been deposited by meandering river channels. The lands are effectively added to federal ownership and management. As a river channel changes lands are avulsed from one bank and accreted to the opposite bank, adding to acreage ownership on the opposite bank.

**ACQUISITION:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) acquires land, easements, and other real property rights when it is in the public interest and consistent with approved land use plans (LUPs). The BLM's land acquisition program is designed to: (1) improve management of natural resources through consolidation of federal, state, and private lands; (2) increase recreational opportunities, preserve open space, and/or ensure accessibility of public land; (3) secure key property necessary to protect endangered species and promote biological diversity; (4) preserve archaeological and historical resources; and (5) implement specific acquisitions authorized by Acts of Congress.

**ACTIVE USE:** Livestock grazing term meaning the current authorized use, including livestock grazing and conservation use. Active use may constitute a portion, or all, of permitted use. Active use does not include temporary non-use or suspended use for forage within all or a portion of an allotment. (43 CFR 4100.0-5)

**ACTIVITY PLAN:** A type of implementation plan (see Implementation plan); an activity plan usually describes multiple projects and applies best management practices to meet land use plan objectives. Examples of activity plans include interdisciplinary management plans, habitat management plans, recreation area management plans, and allotment management plans. (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**ACTUAL USE:** Annual livestock grazing report describing where, how many, what kind or class of livestock, and how long livestock graze on an allotment, or on a portion or pasture of an allotment. (43 CFR 4100.0-5)

**ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES:** Administrative use functions involving regular maintenance or operation of facilities or programs.

**ADMINISTRATIVE USE:** Official use related to management and resources of the public lands by federal, state, or local governments or non-official use sanctioned by an appropriate authorization instrument, such as right-of-way (ROW), permit, lease, or maintenance agreement.

**AIR POLLUTION:** The contamination of the atmosphere by any toxic or radioactive gases and particulate matter as a result of human activity.

**AIR QUALITY:** A measure of the health-related and visual characteristics of the air, often derived from quantitative measurements of the concentrations of specific injurious or contaminating substances. Refers to standards for various classes of land as designated

by the Air Pollution Control Act of 1955; Clean Air Act of 1963, as amended; and Air Quality Act of 1967.

**ALLOTMENT:** An area of land designated and managed for grazing of livestock (43CFR 4100.0-5). An allotment may be grazed by one or more livestock operators. Allotments generally consist of BLM lands but may also include other federally managed, state-owned, and private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and periods of use are specified for each allotment.

**ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (AMP):** A document prepared in consultation with the grazing lessees or permittees involved, which applies to livestock operations on the public lands and which (1) prescribes the manner in, and extent to which livestock operations will be conducted in order to meet the multiple-use, sustained-yield, economic and other needs and objectives as determined for the lands by the Secretary concerned; and (2) describes the type, location, ownership, and general specifications for the range improvements to be installed and maintained on the lands to meet the livestock grazing and other objectives of land management; and (3) contains such other provisions relating to livestock grazing and other objectives found by the Secretary concerned to be consistent with the provisions of this Act and other applicable law (from FLPMA, Title 43 Chapter 35, Subchapter I 1702[k]).

**ALLOWABLE SALE QUANTITY (ASQ):** The gross amount of timber volume that may be sold annually from a specified area over a stated period of time in accordance with the management plan.

**ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE (ATV):** A wheeled vehicle (other than a snowmobile) that is defined as having a wheelbase and chassis width of 50-inches or less, steered using handlebars, generally having a dry weight of 800-pounds or less, travels on three or more low-pressure tires, and has a seat designed to be straddled by the operator

**AMENDMENT:** The process for considering or making changes in the terms, conditions, and decisions of approved RMPs or management framework plans. Usually only one or two issues are considered that involve only a portion of the planning area. (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**ANALYSIS OF THE MANAGEMENT SITUATION (AMS):** Assessment of the current management direction. It includes a consolidation of existing data needed to analyze and resolve identified issues, a description of current BLM management guidance, and a discussion of existing problems and opportunities for solving them.

**ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM):** The amount of forage necessary for the sustenance of one cow or its equivalent for a period of one month, approximately 800 pounds of forage. (43 CFR 4100.0-5)

**APPEAL:** Application for review of an implementation decision by a higher administrative level.

**APPROPRIATE FIRE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE (AMR):** Any specific action suitable for meeting Fire Management Unit (FMU) objectives. Typically, the AMR ranges across a spectrum of tactical options (from monitoring to intensive management actions). The AMR is developed by using FMU strategies and objectives that the Fire Management Plan identifies.

**AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC):** Areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) (1) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes, or (2) to protect life and safety from natural hazards (FLPMA Section 103 (a)).

**ASSESSMENT:** The act of evaluating and interpreting data and information for a defined purpose (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

**ASSETS:** Term utilized to describe roads, primitive roads, and trails that comprise the transportation system. Also the general term utilized to describe all BLM constructed “Assets” contained within the Facility Asset Management System.

**ATMOSPHERIC DEPOSITION:** Air pollution produced when acid chemicals are incorporated into rain, snow, fog or mist and fall to the earth. Sometimes referred to as “acid rain” and comes from sulfur oxides and nitrogen oxides, products of burning coal and other fuels and from certain industrial processes. If the acid chemicals in the air are blown into areas where the weather is wet, the acids can fall to earth in the rain, snow, fog, or mist. In areas where the weather is dry, the acid chemicals may become incorporated into dust or smoke.

**ATTAINMENT AREA:** A geographic area in which criteria air pollutant levels meet the health-based primary standard (national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for the pollutant. An area may have on acceptable level for one criteria air pollutant but may have unacceptable levels for others. Thus, an area could be attainment and nonattainment simultaneously. Attainment areas are defined using federal pollutant limits set by EPA.

**AUTHORIZED OFFICER:** The federal employee who has the delegated authority to make a specific decision.

**AVOIDANCE AREA:** Areas determined to be less suitable for a ROW because of (1) important and/or valued resources or resources assigned to a special status, or (2) a substantive conflict with use. These areas exhibit constraints to siting facilities and are less desirable for a ROW but could be mitigated to reduce potential effects the ROW might have on the environment.

**AVULSED:** Avulsed lands are those lands which have been eroded by meandering river channels. The lands are effectively removed from federal ownership and management.

As a river channel changes lands are avulsed from one bank and accreted to the opposite bank, adding to acreage ownership on the opposite bank.

**BACKCOUNTRY BYWAYS:** Vehicle routes that traverse scenic corridors using secondary or backcountry road systems. National backcountry byways are designated by the type of road and vehicle needed to travel the byway.

**BANKHEAD-JONES LAND USE LANDS:** Formerly privately owned sub-marginal farmlands incapable of producing sufficient income to support the family of a farm owner and acquired by the United States, purchased under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of July 22, 1937. These acquired lands became known as land utilization projects and were subsequently transferred from jurisdiction of the USDA to the US-DOI. They are now administered by the BLM.

**BASAL AREA:** The cross-sectional area of a single stem, including the bark, measured at breast height (4.5 feet above the ground).

**BENEFICIAL OUTCOMES:** Also referenced as “recreation benefits”; improved conditions, maintenance of desired conditions, prevention of worse conditions, and the realization of desired experiences.

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs):** A suite of techniques that guide or may be applied to management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes. Best management practices are often developed in conjunction with LUPs, but they are not considered a LUP decision unless the LUP species that they are mandatory. They may be updated or modified without a plan amendment if they are not mandatory. (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**BIG GAME:** Indigenous, ungulate (hoofed) wildlife species that are hunted, such as elk, deer, bison, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn antelope.

**BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT (BA):** The document prepared by or under the direction of BLM concerning listed and proposed species and designated and proposed critical habitat that may be present in the action area and contains the BLM’s determination of potential effects of the action on such species and habitat. Biological assessments are required for formal consultations and conferences on “major construction projects.” They are recommended for all formal consultations and formal conferences and many informal consultations where a written evaluation of the effects of an action on listed or proposed species and on designated or proposed critical habitat is needed. (M-6840, *Special Status Species Manual*).

**BIOLOGICAL CRUST:** Microorganisms (e.g., lichens, algae, cyanobacteria, micro fungi) and non-vascular plants (e.g., mosses, lichens) that grow on or just below the soil surface. Synonym: microbiotic crust and cryptogamic crust. ( BLM 2005c TR 1734-06 Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health, Version 4 (2005))

**BIOLOGICAL OPINION (BO):** The document which includes: (1) the opinion of the USFWS as to whether or not a federal action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat, (2) a summary of the information on which the opinion is based, and (3) a detailed discussion of the effects of the action on listed species or designated critical habitat. Depending upon the determination of jeopardy or non-jeopardy, the BO may contain reasonable and prudent alternatives, a statement of anticipated take of listed animals, and conservation recommendations for listed plants. (M-6840, *Special Status Species Manual*).

**BLACK-FOOTED FERRET HABITAT:** A complex of prairie dog towns within 1.5 kilometers of each other comprising a total of 1,000 acres.

**BOARD FOOT:** The amount of wood contained in an unfinished board 1 inch thick, 12 inches long, and 12 inches wide; abbreviated bd ft (1,000 bd ft is written as 1 MBF and 1,000,000 BF is written as 1 MMBF).

**CANDIDATE SPECIES:** Taxa for which the US Fish and Wildlife Service has sufficient information on their status and threats to propose the species for listing as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act, but for which issuance of a proposed rule is currently precluded by higher priority listing actions. Separate lists for plants, vertebrate animals, and invertebrate animals are published periodically in the Federal Register (M-6840, *Special Status Species Manual*).

**CANOPY:** The continuous cover formed by tree crowns consisting of one or several layers.

**CASUAL USE:** Activities that involve practices that do not ordinarily disturb or damage the public lands, resources, or improvements and, therefore, do not require a ROW grant or temporary use permit (43 CFR 2800). Also, any short-term noncommercial activity that does not damage or disturb the public lands, their resources, or improvements and that is not prohibited by closure of the lands to such activities (43 CFR 2920). Casual use generally includes collecting geochemical, rock, soil, or mineral specimens using hand tools, hand panning, and non-motorized sluicing. It also generally includes use of metal detectors, gold spears, and other battery-operated devices for sensing the presence of minerals, and hand battery-operated dry washers. Casual use does not include use of mechanized earth-moving equipment, truck mounted drilling equipment, suction dredges, motorized vehicles in areas or on routes designated as closed to off-road vehicles, chemicals, or explosives. It also does not include occupancy or operations where the cumulative effects of the activities result in more than negligible disturbance.

**CAVE:** A cave or cavern is a natural underground space large enough for a human to enter. Some people suggest that the term cave should only apply to cavities that have some part that does not receive daylight; however, in popular usage, the term includes smaller spaces like rock shelters and grottos.

**CLOSED:** Generally denotes that an area is not available for a particular use or uses. For example, 43 CFR 8340.0-5 sets forth the specific meaning of “closed” as it relates to off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, and 43 CFR 8364 defines “closed” as it relates to closure and restriction orders. (H-1601-1, *BLM Land Use Planning Handbook*).

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (CFR):** The official, legal tabulation or regulations directing Federal Government activities. (BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands)

**CO-DOMINANT:** A tree whose crown helps to form the general level of the main canopy.

**COLLABORATION:** A cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interests, work together to seek solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands. (H-1601, *BLM Land Use Planning Handbook*)

**COMMERCIAL THINNING:** Any type of thinning producing merchantable material at least equal to the value of the direct costs of harvesting.

**COMMUNITY RECREATION-TOURISM MARKET:** A community or communities dependent on public lands recreation or related tourism use, growth, or development. Major investments in facilities and visitor assistance are authorized within SRMAs where the BLM’s strategy is to target demonstrated community recreation-tourism market demand. Here, recreation management actions are geared toward meeting primary recreation-tourism market demand for specific activity, experience, and benefit opportunities. These opportunities are produced through maintenance of prescribed natural resource or community setting character and by structuring and implementing management, marketing, monitoring, and administrative actions accordingly.

**COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT:** The proactive interdisciplinary planning; on-the-ground management and administration of travel networks (both motorized and non-motorized) to ensure public access, natural resources, and regulatory needs are considered. It consists of inventory, planning, designation, implementation, education, enforcement, monitoring, easement acquisition, mapping and signing, and other measures necessary to provide access to public lands for a wide variety of uses (including uses for recreational, traditional, casual, agricultural, commercial, educational, and other purposes).

**CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL (COA):** Conditions of approval are the conditions or provisions (requirements) under which an application for a permit to drill or a sundry notice is approved.

**CONDITION CLASS (fire regimes):** Fire regime condition classes are a measure describing the degree of departure from historical fire regimes, possibly resulting in alterations of key ecosystem components, such as species composition, structural stage, stand age, canopy closure, and fuel loadings. One or more of the following activities may have caused this departure: fire suppression, timber harvesting, livestock grazing,

introduction, and establishment of exotic plant species, introduced insects or disease, or other management activities.

**CONDITION CLASS 1:** Fire regimes are within a historical range, and the risk of losing key ecosystem components from fire is low. Vegetation attributes (species composition and structure) are intact and functioning within an historical range.

**CONDITION CLASS 2:** Fire regimes have been moderately altered from their historical range. The risk of losing key ecosystem components from fire is moderate. Fire frequencies have departed from historical frequencies by one or more return intervals (increased or decreased). This results in moderate changes to one or more of the following: fire size, frequency, intensity, severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation attributes have been moderately altered from their historical range.

**CONDITION CLASS 3:** Fire regimes have been altered significantly from their historical ranges. The risk of losing key ecosystem components from fire is high. Fire frequencies have departed from historical frequencies by multiple return intervals. This action results in dramatic changes to one or more of the following: fire size, frequency, intensity, severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation attributes have been altered significantly from their historical range.

**CONFORMANCE:** A proposed action shall be specifically provided for in the land-use plan, or if not specifically mentioned, shall be clearly consistent with the goals, objectives, or standards of the approved land use plan. (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**CONIFER:** A tree or shrub of the order Coniferae with cones and needle-shaped or scale like leaves.

**CONIFEROUS:** Pertaining to conifers, which bear woody cones containing naked seeds.

**CONSERVATION AGREEMENT:** A formal signed agreement between the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other parties that implement specific actions, activities, or programs designed to eliminate or reduce threats to, or otherwise improve the status of, a species. Conservation agreements can be developed at a state, regional, or national level and generally include multiple agencies at both the state and federal level, as well as tribes. Depending on the types of commitments the BLM makes in a conservation agreement and the level of signatory authority, plan revisions or amendments may be required before the conservation agreement is signed or subsequently in order to implement the conservation agreement. (M-6840, Special Status Species Manual)

**CONSERVATION STRATEGY:** A strategy outlining current activities or threats that are contributing to the decline of a species, along with the actions or strategies needed to reverse or eliminate such a decline or threats. Conservation strategies are generally developed for species of plants and animals that are designated as BLM sensitive species or that have been determined by the USFWS to be federal candidates under the ESA.

**CONTROLLED SURFACE USE:** Use and occupancy is allowed (unless restricted by another stipulation), but identified resource values require special operational constraints that may modify the lease rights. CSU is used for operating guidance, not as a substitute, for the No Surface Occupancy (NSO) or timing stipulations. (2) Stipulations to be attached to oil and gas leases to protect specific areas or resources, such as riparian and wetland areas, rivers, sensitive species, viewsheds, and watersheds.

**COOPERATING AGENCY:** The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) define a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA (40 CFR 1501.6). Any federal, state, local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency. (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**CORD:** A stack of fuelwood that measures 4 foot by 4 foot by 8 foot (128 cubic feet) including wood, bark, and air space within the stack.

**COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (CEQ):** CEQ is an advisory council to the President of the U.S. established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews federal programs to analyze and interpret environmental trends and information.

**CREMAINS:** Cremated human remains. Cremated remains are not considered a hazardous substance. (WO IM-2011-159)

**CRITICAL HABITAT:** (1) The specific areas within the geographical area currently occupied by a species, at the time it is listed in accordance with the ESA, on which are found those physical or biological features (i) essential to the conservation of the species and (ii) that may require special management considerations or protection, and (2) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by a species at the time it is listed on determination by the USFWS and/or NMFS that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species. Critical habitats are designated in 50 CFR Parts 17 and 226. The constituent elements of critical habitat are those physical and biological features of designated or proposed critical habitat essential to the conservation of the species, including, but not limited to: (1) space for individual and population growth, and for normal behavior; (2) food, water, air, light, minerals, or other nutritional or physiological requirements; (3) cover or shelter; (4) sites for breeding, reproduction, rearing of offspring, germination, or seed dispersal; and (5) habitats that are protected from disturbance or are representative of the historic geographic and ecological distributions of a species. (M6840, Special Status Species Manual)

**CROWN:** The part of the tree or woody plant bearing live branches and foliage.

**CRUCIAL VALUE HABITAT:** Any particular range or habitat component that directly limits a community, population, or subpopulation to reproduce and maintain itself at a certain level over the long-term. Those sensitive use areas that, because of limited abundance

and/or unique qualities, constitute irreplaceable critical requirements for high interest wildlife. This may also include highly sensitive habitats, including fragile soils that have little or no reclamation potential. Restoration or replacement of these habitats may not be possible. Examples include the most crucial (critical) summer and/or winter range or concentration areas; critical movement corridors; breeding and rearing complexes; spawning areas; developed wetlands; Class 1 and 2 streams, lake, ponds or reservoirs; and riparian habitats critical to high interest wildlife.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES or CULTURAL PROPERTY:** A definite location of human activity, occupation, or use identifiable through field inventory (survey), historical documentation, or oral evidence. The term includes archaeological, historic, or architectural sites, structures, or places with important public and scientific uses and may include definite locations (sites or places) of traditional cultural or religious importance to specified social and/or cultural groups. (Cf. “traditional lifeway value”; see “definite location.”) Cultural resources are concrete, material places and things that are located, classified, ranked, and managed through the system of identifying, protecting, and utilizing for public benefit described in this Manual series. (M-8100-1, BLM Cultural Resources Management)

**CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY CLASSES:** There are three cultural resource inventory classes as identified in M-8100-1, BLM Cultural Resources Management..

1. Class I-existing data inventory. A study of published and unpublished documents, records, files, registers, and other sources, resulting in analysis and synthesis of all reasonably available data. Class I inventories encompass prehistoric, historic, and ethnological/sociological elements and are in large part chronicles of past land uses. They may have major relevance to current land use decisions.

2. Class II-sampling field inventory. A statistically based sample survey designed to help characterize the probable density, diversity, and distribution of archaeological properties in a large area by interpreting the results of surveying limited and discontinuous portions of the target area.

3. Class III-intensive field inventory. A continuous, intensive survey of an entire target area, aimed at locating and recording all archaeological properties that have surface indications, by walking close-interval parallel transects until the area has been thoroughly examined. Class III methods vary geographically, conforming to the prevailing standards for the region involved. (M-8100-1, BLM Cultural Resources Management)

**CUMULATIVE IMPACT:** The impact on the environment resulting from the impact of one action added to other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or nonfederal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over time. (H-1790-1, BLM NEPA Handbook)

**DEFERRED ROTATION:** Rotation grazing with regard to deferring pastures turn-out dates beyond the growing season, if they were used early the prior year, or that have been identified as needing deferment for resource reasons.

**DESIGNATED ROADS AND TRAILS:** Specific roads and trails identified by the BLM (or other agency) where some type of motorized vehicle use is appropriate and allowed, either seasonally or year-long (from H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

**DESIRED CONDITION:** Description of those factors that should exist within ecosystems to maintain their survival and to meet social and economic needs.

**DESIRED OUTCOMES:** A type of land use plan decision expressed as a goal or objective.

**DESTINATION RECREATION-TOURISM MARKET:** This market is composed of national or regional recreation-tourism visitors and other constituents who value public lands as recreation-tourism destinations. Major investments in facilities and visitor assistance are authorized within SRMAs where the BLM's strategy is to target demonstrated destination recreation-tourism market demand. Here, recreation management actions are geared toward meeting primary recreation-tourism market demand for specific activity, experience, and benefit opportunities. These opportunities are produced through maintenance of prescribed natural resource setting character and by structuring and implementing management, marketing, monitoring, and administrative actions accordingly.

**DIAMETER AT BREAST HEIGHT (DBH):** Standard measurement of a tree's diameter, usually taken at 4.5 feet above the ground.

**DISPERSED RECREATION:** Recreation activities of an unstructured type that are not confined to specific locations or dependent on recreation sites. Examples of these activities may be hunting, fishing, off-road vehicle use, hiking, and sightseeing.

**DISPOSAL:** Transfer of public land out of federal ownership to another party through sale, exchange, Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1926, Desert Land Entry or other land law statutes.

**DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES:** Those uses and activities that are likely to alter the behavior of, displace, or cause excessive stress to wildlife populations occurring at a specific location and/or time. In this context, disruptive activity(ies) refers to those actions that alter behavior or cause the displacement of wildlife such that reproductive success is negatively affected, or the physiological ability to cope with environmental stress is compromised. This term does not apply to the physical disturbance of the land surface, vegetation, or features. Examples of disruptive activities may include fence construction, noise, vehicle traffic, or other human presence regardless of the activity. The term is used in conjunction with protecting wildlife during crucial life stages (for example, breeding, nesting, birthing, etc.), although it could apply to any resource value. This definition is not intended to prohibit all activities or authorized uses.

These definitions are not intended to prohibit all activities or authorized uses. For example, emergency activities (fire suppression, search and rescue, etc.), or rangeland monitoring, dispersed recreational activities (hunting, hiking, etc.), and livestock grazing are not considered surface-disturbing or disruptive activities.

**DOMINANT:** A tree whose crown extends above the general level of the main canopy.

**EASEMENT:** An interest in land entitling the owner or holder, as a matter or right, to enter upon land owned by another party for a particular purpose.

**ECOLOGICAL SITE:** A kind of land with a specific potential natural community and specific physical site characteristics, differing from other kinds of land in their ability to produce distinctive kinds and amounts of vegetation and to respond to management. Ecological sites are defined and described with information about soil, species composition, and annual production.

**ECOLOGICAL SITE DESCRIPTION:** Description of the soils, uses, and potential of a kind of land with specific physical characteristics to produce distinctive kinds and amounts of vegetation. (Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health)

**ECOSYSTEM:** Organisms together with their abiotic environment, forming an interacting system, inhabiting an identifiable space. (Society for Range Management)

**ELIGIBLE RIVER:** A river or river segment found eligible for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System through the determination that it is free-flowing and, with its adjacent land area, possesses one or more river-related outstandingly remarkable values. (Wild and Scenic Rivers Act)

**EMERGENCY STABILIZATION AND REHABILITATION (ESR):** Prompt action(s) following a wildfire that are necessary to stabilize and prevent unacceptable degradation to natural and cultural resources, minimize threats to life and property, repair lands unlikely to recover, and repair or replace minor facilities damaged by fire.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** An endangered species is defined as any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range (BLM Manual 6840, Special Status Species Manual).

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA):** A concise public document for which a federal agency is responsible that serves to (1) briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact, (2) aid an agency's compliance with the NEPA when no environmental impact statement is necessary, and (3) facilitate preparation of an environmental impact statement when one is necessary. (40 CFR 1508.9)

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS):** A detailed written statement as required by Section 102 (2) of the NEPA, which states that all agencies of the Federal

Government shall include in every...major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the environment, a detailed statement prepared by the responsible official on (1) the environmental impacts of the proposed action, (2) any adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided should the proposal be implemented, (3) alternatives to the proposed action, (4) the relationship between local short-term uses of man's environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity, and (5) any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources that would be involved in the proposed action, should it be implemented. (40 CFR 1508.11 and the NEPA of 1969)

**EPHEMERAL STREAM:** A stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation, and whose channel is at all times above the water table. Generally, ephemeral streams do not flow continuously for more than 30 days and have more robust upland vegetation than found outside the ephemeral riparian wetland area.

**EXISTING WAY:** A way existing at the time that a Wilderness Study Area survey was completed.

**EVALUATION (plan evaluation):** The process of reviewing the land use plan and the periodic plan monitoring reports to determine whether the land use plan decisions and NEPA analysis are still valid and whether the plan is being implemented.

**EXCLUSION AREA:** Areas determined unsuitable for a ROW because of (1) unique, highly valued, complex, or legally protected resources; (2) potentially significant environmental impact resulting from conflict with current land uses; or (3) areas posing substantial hazard to construction and/or operation of linear facility (e.g., electric transmission line, pipeline, telephone line, fiber optic line). In these areas, ROWs would be granted only in cases where there is a legal requirement to provide such access.

**EXTENSIVE RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (ERMA):** A public lands unit identified in land use plans containing acreage not identified as being in a SRMA, but still having recreational opportunities, experiences, and uses. Recreation management actions within an ERMA are limited to only those of a custodial nature.

**FEDERAL LANDS:** As used in this document, lands owned by the United States, without reference to how the lands were acquired or what federal agency administers the lands. The term includes mineral estates and coal estates underlying private surface but excludes lands held by the United States in trust for Indians, Aleuts, or Eskimos.

**FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 (FLPMA):** Public law 94-579. An Act to establish public land policy; to establish guidelines for its administration; to provide for the management, protection, development, and enhancement of the public lands; and for other purposes.

**FEDERAL LAND TRANSACTION FACILITATION ACT (FLTFA):** FLTFA monies accrue from disposal of BLM lands by sale and the monies stay within the state where the

disposal parcels are located. The BLM is entitled to 60% of the fund, while the Forest Service, Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service are each entitled to 10%. The remaining 10% covers administrative costs. A proposal to use the fund for a specific acquisition must be presented to and agreed upon by all four agencies.

**FEDERAL REGISTER:** A daily publication that reports Presidential and federal agency documents. (BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands)

**FIRE FREQUENCY:** How often a fire burns in a given area; often expressed in terms of fire return intervals. For example, a site might burn over every 5 to 15 years.

**FIRE INTENSITY:** Expression used to describe the power of wildland fires. More commonly described as the rate of energy released per unit length of the fire front.

**FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN:** Strategic implementation-level plans that define a program to manage wildland fires, fuel reduction, and fire rehabilitation based on an area's approved RMP. Fire management plans must address a full range of fire management activities that support ecosystem sustainability, values to be protected, protection of firefighter and public safety, and public health and environmental issues and must be consistent with resource management objectives and activities of the area.

**FIRE PREPAREDNESS:** Activities that lead to a safe, efficient, and cost-effective fire management program in support of land and resource management objectives through appropriate planning and coordination.

**FIRE REGIME/CONDITION CLASS:** An interagency standardized tool for determining the degree of departure from reference condition vegetation, fuels, and disturbance regimes. Assessing FRCC can help guide management objectives and set priorities for treatments

**FIRE SEVERITY:** A qualitative measure of the fire's immediate effects on the ecosystem. Relates to the extent of mortality and survival of plant and animal life – both above and below ground and to loss of organic matter.

**FIRE SUPPRESSION:** All work activities connected with fire extinguishing operations, beginning with discovery of a fire and continuing until the fire is completely out.

**FLUID MINERALS:** Fluid minerals includes: Oil, gas, coal bed natural gas, and geothermal resources.

**FLUVIAL:** Pertaining to streams or produced by stream action.

**FORAGE:** Vegetation of all forms available and of a type used for animal consumption.

**FOREST:** An ecosystem characterized by a more or less dense and extensive tree cover, often consisting of stands varying in characteristics such as species composition, structure, age class, and associated processes, and commonly including meadows, streams, fish, and wildlife.

**FOREST ECONOMIC ANALYSIS SPREADSHEET TOOL (FEAST):** A modeling tool used to assist in the development of economic impacts. The goal for FEAST model is to assist both economists and planning specialists in completing economic impact analyses.

**FOREST HEALTH:** The perceived condition of a forest derived from concerns about such factors as its age, structure, composition, function, vigor, presence of unusual levels of insects or disease, an resilience to disturbance.

**FOREST HEALTH TREATMENTS:** Treatments that restore forest ecosystems or stands to a condition that sustains complexity, function, and/or productivity while providing for human needs.

**FOREST LAND:** Land that is now, or has the potential of being, at least 10 percent stocked by forest trees (based on crown closure) or 16.7 percent stocked (based on tree stocking).

**FOSSIL:** Fossils are remains, traces, or imprints of organisms, preserved in or on the earth's crust, and include fossilized bones, impressions of parts of organisms, or tracks.

**FRAGMENTATION:** Fragmentation is the splitting or isolating of patches of similar habitat. Habitat can be fragmented by natural events or development activities.

**FREE-FLOWING RIVER:** "Free-flowing," as applied to any river or section of a river, means existing or flowing in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modifications of the waterway. (Wild and Scenic Rivers Act)

**FUEL LOADING:** The weight of fuels in a given area, usually expressed in tons per acre, pounds per acre, or kilograms per square meter.

**FUEL MANAGEMENT:** Manipulation or reduction of fuels to meet forest protection and management objectives while preserving and enhancing environmental quality.

**FUEL TREATMENT:** The rearrangement or disposal of fuels to reduce the fire hazard.

**FUEL TYPE:** An identifiable association of fuel elements of a distinctive plant species, form, size, arrangement, or other characteristics that will cause a predictable rate of fire spread or difficulty of control under specified weather conditions.

**FUNCTIONAL HABITAT:** The combination of requirements (i.e. food, water, cover, and space), juxtaposed in a manner necessary to provide sustainable populations of fish and wildlife species. In addition, anthropogenic activities within this habitat must be such that fish or wildlife can subsist without reducing sustainability of the species. Habitat functionality would vary by wildlife species and by location.

**FUNCTIONING AT RISK:** (1) A condition in which vegetation and soil are susceptible to losing their ability to sustain naturally functioning biotic communities. Human

activities, past or present, may increase the risks. (Rangeland Reform Final Environmental Impact Statement [FEIS] at 26.) (2) Uplands or riparian-wetland areas that are properly functioning, but a soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation and lessens their ability to sustain natural biotic communities.

Uplands are particularly at risk if their soils are susceptible to degradation. Human activities, past or present, may increase the risks. (Rangeland Reform Draft Environmental Impact Statement [DEIS] Glossary). See also Properly Functioning Condition and Nonfunctioning Condition (H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual).

**GEOCACHING:** Geocaching is an outdoor adventure game for global position system (GPS) users. Participating in a cache hunt is an activity designed to take advantage of the features and capability of a GPS unit and enjoy the freedom of access to public land. GPS users use the location coordinates to find the caches. Once found, a cache may provide the visitor with a variety of awards. The visitor is asked to sign a logbook and to leave or replace items they find in the cache.

**GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS):** A system of computer hardware, software, data, and applications that capture, store, edit, analyze, and display a wide array of geospatial information. (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**GOAL:** A broad statement of a desired outcome; usually not quantifiable and may not have established timeframes for achievement. . (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**GRAZING LEASE:** A document authorizing use of the public lands outside an established grazing district. Grazing leases specify all authorized use including livestock grazing, suspended use, and conservation use. Leases specify the total number of AUMs apportioned, the area authorize for grazing use, or both. (43CFR 4100.0-5)

**GRAZING PERMIT:** A document authorizing the use of the public lands within an established grazing district. Grazing permits specify all authorized use including livestock grazing, suspended use, and conservation use. Permits specify the total number of AUMs apportioned, the area authorized for grazing use, or both (43CFR 4100.0-5).

**GRAZING PLAN:** A concisely written program of livestock grazing management, including supportive measures, if required, designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing allotment. A grazing plan is prepared in consultation with the permittee(s), lessee(s), and the interested public. Livestock grazing is considered in relation to other uses of the range and to renewable resources, such as watershed, vegetation, and wildlife. A grazing plan establishes seasons of use, the number of livestock to be permitted, the range improvements needed, and the grazing system.

**GRAZING PREFERENCE (or Preference):** A superior or priority position against others for the purpose of receiving a grazing permit or lease. This priority is attached to base property owned or controlled by the permittee or lessee (43CFR 4100.0-5).

**GUIDELINES:** A practice, method, or technique determined to be appropriate to ensure that standards can be met or that significant progress can be made toward meeting the standard. Guidelines are tools such as grazing systems, vegetative treatments, or improvement projects that help managers and permittees achieve standards. Guidelines may be adapted or modified when monitoring or other information indicated the guideline is not effective, or a better means of achieving the applicable standard becomes appropriate. (H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland health Standards Manual)

**HABITAT:** An environment that meets a specific set of physical, biological, temporal, or spatial characteristics that satisfy the requirements of a plant or animal species or group of species for part or all of their life cycle. (M6840, Special Status Species Manual)

**HABITAT TYPE:** An aggregation of units of land capable of producing similar plant communities at climax.

**HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN: (HMP):** a written and approved activity plan for a geographical area of public lands which identifies wildlife habitat management actions to be implemented in achieving specific objectives related to RMP planning document decisions. (BLM Manual 6780, 1981.)

**HARVESTING:** The felling, skidding, on-site processing, and loading of trees or logs onto trucks.

**HERD AREA:** The geographic area identified as having been used by a herd as its habitat in December 1971.

**HERD MANAGEMENT AREA (HMA):** Public land under the jurisdiction of the BLM that has been designated for special management emphasizing the maintenance of an established wild horse or burro herd. (H-4710-1)

**HERD MANAGEMENT AREA PLAN (HMAP):** An activity plan that focuses on and contains the necessary instructions for the management of wild horses on specified public lands to meet wild horse health, resource condition, sustained yield, multiple use, economic, and other objectives. The HMAP prescribes measures for the protection, management, and control of wild horses and burros and their habitat on one or more herd management areas, in conformance with decisions made in approved management framework or RMPs.

**HISTORIC RANGE OF VARIABILITY (HVR):** Characterizes fluctuations in ecosystem conditions or processes over time; thereby providing a reference against which to evaluate recent and potential future ecosystem change. Landres et al. (1999) defined natural variability as “the ecological conditions and their variability over space and time

relatively unaffected by people.” The theory behind HRV is that the broad historical envelope of possible ecosystem conditions, such as burned area, vegetation cover type area, or patch size distribution, provides a representative time series of reference conditions to guide land management (Aplet and Keeton 1999). For the RMP, the term “historical” is used to reference the time period prior to European settlement.

**HISTORIC RESOURCES or HISTORIC PROPERTY:** Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register. The term includes, for purposes of these regulations, artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term “eligible for inclusion in the National Register” includes both properties formally determined as such by the Secretary of the Interior and all other properties that meet National Register listing criteria (quoted from 36 CFR 800.2(e); compare National Historic Preservation Act, Section 301, Appendix 5). (See also “cultural resource-cultural property.” “Cultural property” is an analogous BLM term not limited by National Register status.) (M-8100-1, BLM Cultural Resources Management) The term can also refer to cultural properties that have a period of use between Euro-American settlements to present.

**HYDROLOGIC CONDITION:** The current state of the processes controlling the yield, timing and quality of water in the watershed. Each physical and biologic process that regulates or influences stream flow and groundwater character has a range of variability associated with the rate or magnitude of energy and mass exchange. At any point in time, each of these processes can be defined by their current rate or magnitude relative to the range of variability associated with each process. Integration of all processes at one time represents hydrologic condition.

**IMPLAN:** The IMPLAN Model is an input-output impact model system which provides users with the ability to define industries, economic relationships and projects to be analyzed. This can be used to assess the economic impacts of resource management decisions, facilities, industries, or changes in their level of activity in a given area. The current IMPLAN input-output database and model is maintained and sold by MIG, Inc. (Minnesota IMPLAN Group).

**IMPACTS (or EFFECTS):** Environmental consequences (the scientific and analytical basis for comparison of alternatives) as a result of a proposed action. Effects may be either direct, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place, or indirect, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable, or cumulative. (BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands)

**IMPLEMENTATION DECISIONS:** Decisions that take action to implement LUP decisions; generally appealable to the Interior Board of Land Appeals under 43 CFR 4.410. (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:** An area or site-specific plan written to implement decisions made in a LUP. Implementation plans include both activity plans and project plans. (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**IMPORTANT VALUE:** As related to ACECs, a relevant value, resource, system, process, or hazard that has substantial significance and values. This generally requires qualities of more than local significance and special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern. A natural hazard can be important if it is a significant threat to human life or property. (43 CFR 1610.7-2(a) (2)).

**INDIAN TRUST ASSETS:** Lands, natural resources, money or other assets held by the federal government in trust for that are restricted against alienation for Indian tribes and individual Indians.

**INDIAN TRUST RESOURCES:** Lands and interests in lands, minerals, natural resources, or other physical assets held in trust by the federal government for beneficial owners and natural resources in which Indian tribes have federally protected or reserved interests (e.g. water, fish, wildlife, vegetation).

**INDICATOR (species):** Components of a system whose characteristics (presence or absence, quantity, distribution) are used as an index of an attribute (e.g., rangeland health attribute) that are too difficult, inconvenient, or expensive to measure. (Interagency Technical Reference 1734-8, 2000) (H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual)

**INHOLDING:** A nonfederal parcel of land that is completely surrounded by federal land.

**INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM):** A long-standing, science-based, decision-making process that identifies and reduces risks from pests and pest management related strategies. It coordinates the use of pest biology, environmental information, and available technology to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means, while posing the least possible risk to people, property, resources, and the environment. IPM provides an effective strategy for managing pest in all arenas from developed agricultural, residential, and public areas to wild lands. IPM serves as an umbrella to provide an effective, all encompassing, low-risk approach to protect resources and people from pests. BLM Departmental Manual 517 (Pesticides) defines integrated pest management as "a sustainable approach to managing pest by combining biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health, and environmental risks.

**INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT (IWM):** This is a decision support system involving deliberate selections, integration, and implementation of effective weed management tactics. It utilizes cost/benefit analysis and takes into consideration public interests and social, economical, and ecological impacts in the decision making process.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM:** Staff specialists representing identified skill and knowledge needs working together to resolve issues and provide recommendations to an authorized officer. (H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual)

**INTERIM MANAGEMENT POLICY (IMP):** An interim measure governing lands under wilderness review. This policy (H-8550-1) protects wilderness study areas from impairment of their suitability as wilderness.

**INTERIOR BOARD OF LAND APPEALS (IBLA):** The DOI Office of Hearings and Appeals Board acts for the Secretary of the Interior in responding to appeals of decisions on the use and disposition of public lands and resources. Because the IBLA acts for and on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, its decisions usually represent the Department's final decision but are subject to the courts.

**INTERMITTENT STREAM:** A stream that flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from springs or from some surface sources such as melting snow in mountainous areas. During the dry season and throughout minor drought periods, these streams will not exhibit flow. Geomorphological characteristics are not well defined and are often inconspicuous. In the absence of external limiting factors, such as pollution and thermal modifications, species are scarce and adapted to the wet and dry conditions of the fluctuating water level.

**INVASIVE NON-NATIVE SPECIES (INNS):** See invasive plants and species

**INVASIVE PLANTS AND SPECIES:** Plants and/or organisms that have been introduced into an environment where they did not evolve. Executive Order 13112 focuses on organism whose presence is likely to cause economic harm, environmental harm, or harms to human health.

**INVASIVE WEEDS – NOXIOUS WEEDS:** Non-native invasive plants that are fast spreading and often expensive or difficult to control. Noxious weeds may proliferate, forming mono-cultures, which can crowd out other plants that provide biodiversity.

**JURISDICTION:** The legal right to control or regulate use of a transportation facility. Jurisdiction requires authority, but not necessary ownership.

**K FACTOR:** A soil erodibility factor used in the universal soil loss equation that is a measure of the susceptibility of soil particles to detachment and transport by rainfall and runoff. Estimation of the factor takes several soil parameters into account, including soil texture, percent of sand greater than 0.10 millimeter, soil organic matter content, soil structure, soil permeability, clay mineralogy, and coarse fragments. K factor values range from .02 to .64, the greater values indicating the highest susceptibilities to erosion.

**KARST TOPOGRAPHY:** Karst is a landscape shaped by the dissolution of a layer or layers of soluble bedrock usually carbonate rock such as limestone or dolomite. Due to

subterranean drainage, there may be very limited surface water, even to the absence of all rivers and lakes or perennial streams. Many karst regions display distinctive surface features, with sinkholes or dolines being the most common. Some karst regions include thousands of caves, even though evidence of caves that are big enough for human exploration is not a required characteristic of karst.

**LAND CLASSIFICATION:** A process for determining the suitability of public lands for certain types of disposal or lease under the public land laws or for retention under multiple use management.

**LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENTS:** Ownership or jurisdictional changes are referred to as “Land Tenure Adjustments.” To improve the manageability of the BLM lands and their usefulness to the public, the BLM has numerous authorities for repositioning lands into a more consolidated pattern, disposing of lands, and entering into cooperative management agreements. These land pattern improvements are completed primarily through the use of land exchanges but also through exchange, sale, purchase, donation, or other authority, and through the use of cooperative management agreements and leases.

**LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENT CATEGORY:** The designation of an analyzed tract of land for retention or manner of disposal based upon resource values, or public access.

- **Category I:** Lands managed in Category I – Retention would include all ACECs, WSAs, Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, archeological sites/historic districts, and lands acquired through LWCF, National Historic Trails, National Monuments or other congressionally-designated areas. Lands within Category I would not be transferred from BLM management by any method for the life of the plan.
- **Category II:** Retention/Limited Land Ownership Adjustment (no land disposals through sale). Public lands within Category II would not be available for sale under section 203 of FLPMA. However, lands within this category could be exchanged for lands or interest in lands. Some public lands in Category II may contain resource values protected by law or policy. If actions cannot be taken to adequately mitigate impacts from disposal of those lands, those parcels would be retained.
- **Category III (Disposal – land ownership adjustments, including sale):** These lands generally have low or unknown resource values or are isolated or fragmented from other public land ownerships making them difficult to manage. Public land parcels in this category are relatively smaller in size (typically 160 acres or less). A listing of the legal descriptions of these disposal parcels can be found at the end of this Appendix (under Legal Descriptions of Disposal Tracts by Alternative). These parcels have been found to potentially meet the sale criteria of section 203(a)(1) of FLPMA and could be made available for sale, however, exchange could have priority over disposal by FLPMA sale.

**LAND USE ALLOCATION:** The identification in a land use plan of the activities and foreseeable development that are allowed, restricted, or excluded for all or part of the planning area, based on desired future conditions (from H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

**LAND USE PLAN:** A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of FLPMA; an assimilation of land use plan level decisions developed through the planning process outlined in 43 CFR 1600, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed. The term includes both RMPs and management framework plans (MFPs). (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**LAND USE PLAN BOUNDARY:** The geographic extent of a resource management plan.

**LAND USE PLAN DECISION:** Establishes desired outcomes and actions needed to achieve them. Decisions are reached using the planning process in 43 CFR 1600. When they are presented to the public as proposed decisions, they can be protested to the BLM Director. They are not appealable to Interior Board of Land Appeals.

**LANDS WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS (LWC):** Lands that have been inventoried under the provisions of BLM Manual Section 6300-1 and 6300-2 and found to contain wilderness characteristics as defined by section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964. If found to possess wilderness characteristics, these lands may be designated as “Wild Lands”.

**LATE SEASON:** Late summer or fall grazing.

**LEASABLE MINERALS:** Those minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. They include coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulphur, potassium and sodium minerals; and oil, gas, and geothermal.

**LEASE:** Section 302 of FLPMA provides the BLM’s authority to issue leases for the use, occupancy, and development of public lands. Leases are authorizations to possess and use public lands for fixed periods of time. Land uses which may be authorized by lease are those involving substantial construction, development, or land improvement and the investment of large amounts of capital which is to be amortized over time. A lease conveys a possessory interest and is revocable only in accordance with its terms and the provisions of 43 CFR 2920.1-1(a). There are no limitations on the amount of land that may be included in a lease, however the area should be limited to the size justified. Also see Permits.

**LEASE STIPULATION (Oil & Gas):** Conditions of lease issuance that provide protection for other resource values or land uses by establishing authority for substantial delay or site changes or the denial of operations within the terms of the lease contract. The authorized officer has the authority to relocate, control timing, and impose other

mitigation measures under Section 6 of the Standard Lease Form. Lease stipulations clarify the Bureau's intent to protect known resources or resource values.

**LEK:** An assembly area where birds, especially sage-grouse, carry on display and courtship behavior. Also referred to as a "strutting ground". The following are the definitions of lek terminology when applied to trends and monitoring of leks from Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks:

- **Unconfirmed** - Single count with no subsequent survey or a reported lek without supporting survey data.
- **Confirmed Active** - Data supports existence of lek. Supporting data defined as: a) minimum of 2 years with 2 or more males lekking on site (preferred) or b) 1 year with 2 or more males lekking on site followed with evidence of lekking (vegetation trampling, feathers, and droppings) during subsequent year.
- **Confirmed Inactive** - 10 years with no males or sign of lek activity - supported by surveys conducted during 3 or more years over the last 10 years. Sage grouse abundance patterns have generally fit within a 10-year time frame, encompassing both years of abundance and relative scarcity. For the purpose of assigning lek status, 10 years with 3 years of supporting data is minimal for characterizing a lek as inactive. However, the capacity for surveying leks at a greater annual frequency in 10 years is generally limited and therefore this Status Definition incorporates both biological (i.e., past abundance patterns) and current administrative factors.
- **Confirmed Extirpated** - Habitat changes have caused birds to permanently abandon a lek (e.g., plowing, urban development, overhead power- line).

**LIMITED AREAS:** Designated areas where the use is subject to restrictions, such as limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions), limiting use to existing roads and trails, limiting use to designated roads and trails where use would be allowed only on roads and trails that are signed for use, or limited to administrative use. Combinations of restrictions are possible, such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain times of the year (BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands).

**LU (Land Utilization) PROJECT LANDS** (also referred to as Acquired Lands or Bankhead-Jones Lands): Formerly privately owned sub-marginal farmlands incapable of producing sufficient income to support the family of a farm owner and acquired by the United States, purchased under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of July 22, 1937. These acquired lands became known as land utilization projects and were subsequently transferred from jurisdiction of the USDA to the USDO. They are now administered by the BLM.

**MECHANIZED TRAVEL:** Moving by means of mechanical devices, such as a bicycle; not powered by a motor.

**MINE:** An opening or excavation in the earth for extracting minerals.

**MINERAL:** Any naturally formed inorganic material, solid or fluid inorganic substance that can be extracted from the earth, any of various naturally occurring homogeneous substances (as stone, coal, salt, sulfur, sand, petroleum, water, or natural gas) obtained usually from the ground. Under federal laws, considered as locatable (subject to the general mining laws), leasable (subject to the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920), and salable (subject to the Materials Act of 1947).

- **Leaseable Minerals:** Those minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended. Leaseable minerals include such solid leaseables as coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulphur, potassium, sodium minerals and such fluid leaseables as oil and gas.
- **Locatable Minerals:** Minerals subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. This includes deposits of gold, silver, and other uncommon minerals not subject to lease or sale.
- **Saleable Minerals or Mineral Materials:** Common materials such as sand and gravel and common varieties of stone, pumice, pumicite, and clay that are not obtainable under the mining or leasing laws but that can be acquired under the Materials Act of 1947, as amended, through sales or special permits..

**MINERAL ENTRY:** The filing of a claim on public land to obtain the right to any locatable minerals it may contain.

**MINERAL ESTATE:** The ownership of minerals, including rights necessary for access, exploration, development, mining, ore dressing, and transportation operations.

**MINIMIZE:** To reduce the adverse impact of an operation to the lowest practical level.

**MINING CLAIM:** A parcel of land that a miner takes and holds for mining purposes, having acquired the right of possession by complying with the Mining Law and local laws and rules. A mining claim may contain as many adjoining locations as the locator may make or buy. There are four categories of mining claims: lode, placer, millsite, and tunnel site.

**MITIGATION:** A measure that will result in a physical change to the proposed action that will actually reduce or eliminate impacts. CEQ NEPA regulations identify five types of measures to deal with significant environmental effects: (1) avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (2) minimizing an impact by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (3) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (4) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance; or (5) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

**MONITORING:** Observations, data collection, and studies that evaluate compliance of on-the-ground management with the RMP direction, or the effectiveness of RMP-prescribed management direction, in meeting broader goals objectives. Monitoring evaluates whether actions (1) comply with NEPA decisions that have been implemented; (2) achieve the desired objectives (e.g. effectiveness); and (3) are based on accurate assumptions (e.g., validation).

**MOTORIZED:** Any machine activated by a nonliving power source, except that small battery-powered, hand-carried devices such as flashlights, shavers, and Geiger counters are not classed as motorized equipment. (examples: ATV/OHV, motorcycles, cars, trucks, etc.)

**MULTIPLE USE:** The management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output (FLPMA) (BLM Manual 6840, Special Status Species Manual).

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) of 1969:** An Act which encourages productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment; promotes efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; enriches the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and establishes a CEQ (BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands)

**NATIONAL REGISTER:** The National Register of Historic Places, expanded and maintained by the Secretary of Interior, as authorized by Section 2(b) of the Historic Sites act and Section 101(a)(1)(A) of the National Historic Preservation Act. The National Register lists cultural properties found to qualify for inclusion because of their local, state, or national significance. Eligibility criteria and nomination procedures are found in 36 CFR Part 60. The Secretary's administrative responsibility for the National Register is delegated to the National Park Service. (M-8100-1, BLM Cultural Resource Management)

**NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM:** A system of nationally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system consists of three types of streams: (1)

recreational—rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad and that may have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past; (2) scenic—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads; and (3) wild—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trails, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

**NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE:** Any Native American group in the coterminous United States that the Secretary of the Interior recognizes as possessing tribal status (listed periodically in the Federal Register). (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**NATURALNESS:** Lands and resources affected primarily by the forces of nature where the imprint of human activity is substantially unnoticeable in an area of 5,000 acres or greater. BLM has authority to inventory, assess, and/or monitor the attributes of the lands and resources on public lands, which, taken together, are an indication of an area's naturalness. These attributes may include the presence or absence of roads and trails, fence and other improvements; the nature and extent of landscape modifications; the presence of native vegetation communities; and the connectivity of habitats (from IM-20030275, change 1, Considerations of Wilderness Characteristics in LUP, Attachment 1).

**NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRDS:** Birds that winter in Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico and then return to the United States and Canada during spring to breed. Includes almost half of the bird species that breed in the United States and Canada.

**NONFUNCTIONING CONDITION:** (1) Condition in which vegetation and ground cover are not maintaining soil conditions that can sustain natural biotic communities. (2) Riparian-wetland areas are considered to be in nonfunctioning condition when they do not provide adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows and thus are not reducing erosion, improving water quality, or other normal characteristics of riparian areas. The absence of a floodplain may be an indicator of nonfunctioning condition. (H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual)

**NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY:** A fluid mineral leasing constraint that prohibits occupancy or disturbance on all or part of the lease surface to protect special values or uses. Lessees may exploit the fluid mineral resources under the leases restricted by this constraint through use of directional drilling from sites outside the area. Leasing with "no surface occupancy" means that there will be no development or disturbance whatsoever of the land surface, including establishment of wells or well pads, and construction of roads, pipelines, or power lines.

**NOXIOUS WEED:** A plant species designated by federal or state law and county weed boards, are non-native species that generally possess one or more of the following

characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insects or disease; or non-native, new, or not common to the United States.

**OBJECTIVE:** A description of a desired outcome for a resource. Objectives can be quantified and measured and, where possible, have established timeframes for achievement.

**OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE (off-road vehicle):** Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designated for travel on or immediately over land, water or other natural terrain, excluding: (1) any non-amphibious registered motorboat; (2) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes; (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer, or otherwise officially approved; (4) vehicles in official use; and (5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used for national defense.

**OFFICIAL USE:** Use by an employee, agent, or designated representative of the Federal Government or one of its contractors, in the course of his employment, agency, or representation. (BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands)

**OLD FOREST STRUCTURE:** Physical forest or woodland characteristics that contribute to the structure, composition, or function of forested stands for a particular forest type. These characteristics include large and old tree components, accumulation of dead wood components such as standing snags and/or downed logs, occurrence of climax plant species or seral trees with a common decadent attributes such as broken or deformed tops and rotten boles, wide variation in tree age classes and stocking levels, and multiple canopy layers.

**OLD GROWTH:** Forested stands in late successional stages of development meeting the main characteristics or old forest structures that are described by the forest type for the East-side Montana Zone in Old-Growth Forest Types of the Northern Region (Green, 1992).

**OPEN AREA:** An area where all types of vehicle use is permitted at all times, anywhere in the area subject to the operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in 43 CFR 8341 and 8342.

**OPERATOR:** An operator is one who has authorization from the BLM to conduct activity on public land.

**OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE VALUES:** Values among those listed in Section 1(b) of the WSR Act of 1968: “scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, or other similar values....” Other similar values that may be considered include ecological, biological, or botanical.

**OVERSTOCKED:** The situation in which trees are so closely spaced that they compete for resources and do not reach full growth potential.

**OVERSTORY:** That portion of the trees, in a forest of more than one story, forming the upper or uppermost canopy layer.

**OZONE:** Ozone is created and destroyed primarily by ultraviolet radiation.. When high-energy ultraviolet rays strike molecules of ordinary oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>), they split the molecule into two single oxygen atoms, known as atomic oxygen (O). A freed oxygen atom then can combine with an oxygen molecule to form a molecule of ozone (O<sub>3</sub>). In atmospheres containing nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>, a common pollutant) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), ozone can be created in the presence of sunlight. Although ozone is critical in the high atmosphere to protect against ultraviolet (UV) light, low level ozone is implicated in impacts as diverse as crop damage and increased incidence of asthma and other respiratory complaints.

**PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES:** Paleontological resource means any fossilized remains, traces, or imprints of organisms, preserved in or on the earth's crust, that are of paleontological interest and that provide information about the history of life on earth, except that the term does not include (a) any materials associated with an archaeological resource (as defined in Section 3(1) of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16 U.S.C. 470bb(1)); or (b) any cultural item (as defined in Section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (24 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.)).

**PERENNIAL STREAM:** A stream that flows continuously. Perennial streams are generally associated with a water table in the localities through which they flow.

**PERMIT:** A short-term, for up to 3 years, revocable authorization to use public lands for specific purposes. Section 302 of FLPMA provides BLM's authority to issue permits for the use, occupancy, and development of the public lands. Permit land uses involve either little or no land improvement or construction, or investment which can be amortized within the terms of the permit. A permit conveys no possessory interest. The authorized officer may renew it at his/her discretion or revoke it in accordance with its terms or the provisions of 43 CFR 2920.1-1(b). Also see Leases.

**PERMITTEE:** Holder of a valid permit that authorizes grazing use of the public lands within the grazing district, Also a holder of a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) for commercial, competitive, organized or vending activities for recreational uses being conducted on public lands. Also a holder of a commercial filming permit issued by the BLM for filming activities conducted on public lands.

**PERMITTED USE:** The forage allocated by, or under the guidance of, an applicable land use plan for livestock grazing in an allotment under a permit or lease and expressed in AUMs (43 CFR § 4100.0-5) (from H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual).

**PETROGLYPH:** A figure, design, or indentation carved, abraded, or pecked on natural rock surfaces.

**PICTOGRAPH:** A figure or design, colored with charcoal or natural mineral pigments, painted onto a rock.

**PLANNING AREA:** A geographical area for which land use and resource management plans are developed and maintained.

**PLANNING CRITERIA:** The standards, rules, and other factors developed by managers and interdisciplinary teams for their use in forming judgment about decision making, analysis and data collection during planning; planning criteria streamline and simplify the resource management planning actions. (H-1601, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**PLAT:** Map of land parcels. The BLM Master Title Plat system records the size, location and ownership status of distinct parcels. The information is derived from warranty deeds and is updated as needed.

**PLAY (oil & gas):** Defined as a set of known or postulated oil and/or gas accumulations sharing similar geologic, geographic and temporal properties such as source rock, migration pathway, trapping mechanism, and hydrocarbon type.

**POLE:** A tree of a size between a sapling and a mature tree.

**POPULATION:** Within a species, a distinct group of individuals that tend to mate only with members of the group. Because of generations of inbreeding, members of a population tend to have similar genetic characteristics.

**POTENTIAL FOSSIL YIELD CLASSIFICATION (PFYC):** A system of general classification based upon the lithology of surface rocks that estimates the likelihood of a given rock unit to yield vertebrate or other scientifically important fossil materials.

**POWER SITE CLASSIFICATION:** A classification made by the Federal Power Commission that is a segregate against the operation of the public laws for lands that are needed or have potential for power projects and associated transmission lines. Lands classified to benefit transmission lines are open to the operation of the public land laws subject to their use for transmission lines.

**POWER SITE RESERVE:** A reservation of public lands that have potential value for power development.

**PRAIRIE DOG HABITAT:** The maximum extent of areas occupied by prairie dogs at any time during the last 20 years.

**PREFERENCE:** A superior or priority position against others for the purpose of receiving a grazing permit or lease. This priority is attached to base property owned or controlled by the permittee or lessee. (43 CFR 4100.0-5) Active preference and suspended preference together make up the total grazing preference.

**PREHISTORIC:** Refers to the period when wherein Native American cultural activities took place which was not yet influenced by contact with historic nonnative culture(s). The end of this time period varies by region.

**PRESCRIBED FIRE:** Any fire ignited by management action to meet specific objectives. A written approved fire plan must exist, and NEPA requirements must be met, prior to ignition. (H-9214-1, BLM Prescribed Fire Management Handbook)

**PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION (PSD):** An air pollution permitting program intended to ensure that air quality does not diminish in attainment areas.

**PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED RECREATION** (in regards to designated Wilderness Areas): Means non-motorized types of outdoor recreation activities that do not require developed facilities or mechanical transport. Mechanical transport means any vehicle, device, or contrivance for moving people or material in or over land, water, snow, or air that has moving parts. This includes, but is not limited to, sailboats, sailboards, hang gliders, parachutes, bicycles, game carriers, carts, and wagons. The term does not include wheelchairs, nor does it include horses or other pack stock, skis, snowshoes, non-motorized river craft including, but not limited to, drift boats, rafts, and canoes, or sleds, travois, or similar devices without moving parts. (43 CFR 6301.5 Definitions.) There are no designated Wilderness Areas in the Billings Field Office Planning area. For lands under Wilderness Review, i.e. Wilderness Study Areas, “No mechanical transport, which includes all motorized vehicles plus trail or mountain bikes, will be allowed on such trails.” (H-8550-1, Chapter III, § H1)

**PRIMITIVE RECREATION:** As defined in the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS), primitive recreation is managed to be essentially free from evidence of humans and onsite controls. Motor vehicle use is not permitted. Means of access include hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, non-motorized boating, and horseback riding.

**PRIMITIVE ROAD:** A linear route managed for use by four-wheel drive or high clearance vehicles. Primitive roads do not normally meet any BLM road design standards.

**PRIMITIVE ROUTE:** Any transportation linear feature located within areas that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics and not meeting the wilderness inventory road definition.

**PROBABLE SALE QUANTITY (PSQ):** The allowable harvest level that can be maintained without decline over the long term if the schedule of harvests and regeneration are followed. PSQ recognizes a level of uncertainty in meeting the determined level; this uncertainty is typically based on other environmental factors that preclude harvesting at a particular time (for example, because of watershed or habitat concerns). A PSQ is not a commitment to offer for sale a specific level of timber volume every year.

**PROPERLY FUNCTIONING CONDITION (PFC):** (1) An element of the Fundamental of Rangeland Health for watersheds and therefore a required element of state or regional

standard and guidelines under 43 CFR § 4180.2(b). (2) Condition in which vegetation and ground cover maintain soil conditions that can sustain natural biotic communities. For riparian areas, the process of determining that function is described in BLM Technical Reference (TR) 1737-9. Final Environmental Impact Statement at 26, 72. (3) Riparian-wetland areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris are present to dissipate stream energy associated with high-water flows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter sediment, capture bed load, and aid floodplain development; improve floodwater retention and groundwater recharge; develop root masses that stabilize streambanks against cutting action; develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses; and support greater biodiversity. The functioning condition of riparian-wetland areas is influenced by geomorphic features, soil, water, and vegetation. (4) Uplands function properly when the existing vegetation and ground cover maintain soil conditions capable of sustaining natural biotic communities. The functioning condition of uplands is influenced by geomorphic features, soil, water, and vegetation. See also “Nonfunctioning Condition and Functioning at Risk” (H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual).

**PROPER FUNCTIONING CONDITION FOR LENTIC AREAS:** A riparian-wetland areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation, landform, or debris is present to: dissipate energies associated with wind action, wave action, and overland flow from adjacent sites, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter sediment and aid floodplain development; improve flood-water retention and ground-water recharge; develop root masses that stabilize islands and shoreline features against cutting action; restrict water percolation; develop diverse ponding characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterbird breeding, and other uses; and support greater biodiversity.

**PROPER FUNCTIONING CONDITION FOR LOTIC AREAS:** A riparian-wetland area is considered to be in proper functioning condition when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to:

- Dissipate stream energy associated with high waterflow, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality;
- Filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid floodplain development;
- Improve flood-water retention and ground-water recharge;
- Develop root masses that stabilize streambanks against cutting action;
- Develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses;
- Support greater biodiversity.

**PROPOSED SPECIES:** Species that have been officially proposed for listing as threatened or endangered by the Secretary of the Interior. A proposed rule has been published in the Federal Register. (M-6840, Special Status Species Manual)

**PRYOR MOUNTAIN WILD HORSE RANGE (PMWHR):** The combination of agency (BLM, USFS, and NPS) and private rangelands authorized for use by wild horses. Not to be confused with WILD HORSE RANGE (see definition below) which is a special designation of which only the BLM portion of the PMWHR has this status.

**PUBLIC LAND:** Any land and interest in land owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management, without regard to how the United States acquired ownership, except lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf and land held for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos. (from H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook and BLM Public Land Statistics).

**PULPWOOD:** Roundwood, whole-tree chips, or wood residues that are used for the production of wood pulp.

**RANGE IMPROVEMENT:** An authorized physical modification or treatment which is designed to improve production of forage; change vegetation composition; control patterns of use; provide water; stabilize soil and water conditions; restore, protect and improve the condition of rangeland ecosystems to benefit livestock, wild horses and burros, and fish and wildlife. The term includes, but is not limited to, structures, treatment projects, and use of mechanical devices or modifications achieved through mechanical means. (43CFR 4100.0-5) (H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual)

**RANGELAND:** A kind of land on which the native vegetation, climax or natural potential consists predominantly of grasses, grasslike plants, forbs, or shrubs. Rangeland includes lands revegetated naturally or artificially to provide a noncrop plant cover that is managed like native vegetation. Rangeland may consist of natural grasslands, savannahs, shrublands, most deserts, tundra, alpine communities, coastal marshes, and wet meadows. (H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual)

**RAPTOR:** A group of predatory avian species (e.g., hawks, eagles, falcons, and owls) also referred to as birds of prey, which share various physical characteristics (e.g., sharp talons, strongly curved bill).

**REASONABLE FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT (RFD) SCENARIO:** The prediction of the type and amount of oil and as activity that would occur in a given area. The prediction is based on geologic factors, past history of drilling, projected demand for oil and gas, and industry interest.

**RECLAMATION:** Actions taken to restore damaged lands to Proper Functioning Condition including removal of structures, replacement or regrading of topsoil, tilling of compacted soils to allow infiltration of air and water, installation of erosion control

structures, seeding or planting of native vegetation and integrated pest management to control invasive species.

**RECORD OF DECISION (ROD):** A document signed by a responsible official recording a decision that was preceded by the preparing of an EIS.

**RECREATION EXPERIENCE:** Psychological outcomes realized either by recreation-tourism participants as a direct result of their on-site leisure engagements and recreation-tourism activity participation or by nonparticipating community residents as a result of their interaction with visitors and guests within their community or interaction with the BLM and other public and private recreation-tourism providers and their actions.

**RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES (R&PP) ACT of 1926:** The objective of the R&PP Act is to meet the needs of state and local government agencies and nonprofit organizations by leasing or conveying public land required for recreation and public purpose uses.

**RECREATION MANAGEMENT ZONES:** The recreation management zones are delineated for specific recreation opportunities, predominate recreation and visitor services focus, and recreation setting characteristics for long term management.

**RECREATION NICHE:** The place or position within the strategically targeted recreation-tourism market for each SRMA that is most suitable (i.e., capable of producing certain specific kinds of recreation opportunities) and appropriate (i.e., most responsive to identified visitor or resident customers), given available supply and current demand, for the production of specific recreation opportunities and the sustainable maintenance of accompanying natural resource or community setting character.

**RECREATION SETTING CHARACTERISTICS MATRIX:** More than ½ mile from either mechanized or motorized routes; undisturbed natural landscape; no structures, foot/horse and water trails only; fewer than three (3) encounters/day at campsites and fewer than six (6) encounters/day on travel routes; fewer than or equal to three (3) people per group; no alternation of the natural terrain; footprints only observed; and sounds of people rare.

**RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES:** Favorable circumstances enabling visitors' engagement in a leisure activity to realize immediate psychological experiences and attain more lasting, value-added beneficial outcomes.

**RECREATION OPPORTUNITY SPECTRUM (ROS):** A framework for inventorying, planning, and managing recreational opportunities. ROS is divided into six classes: primitive, semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural, rural, and urban. This system has been replaced by the Recreation Setting Characteristics Matrix.

**RECREATIONAL RIVER:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

**RECREATION SETTINGS:** The collective distinguishing attributes of landscapes that influence and sometimes actually determine what kinds of recreation opportunities are produced.

**RECREATION SETTING CHARACTER:** The distinguishing recreational qualities of any landscape, objectively defined along a continuum, ranging from primitive to urban landscapes, expressed in terms of the nature of the component parts of its physical, social, and administrative attributes. These recreational qualities can be both classified and mapped. This classification and mapping process should be based on variation that either exists (for example, setting descriptions) or is desired (for example, setting prescriptions) among component parts of the various physical, social, and administrative attributes of any landscape. The recreation opportunity spectrum is one of the tools for doing this. Below is a text version of the recreation setting character matrix:

- **Primitive Classification:**
  - ▶ **Physical:**
    - More than ½ mile from either mechanized or motorized routes.
    - Undisturbed natural landscape.
    - No structures. Foot/horse and water trails only.
  - ▶ **Social:**
    - Fewer than three encounters/day at camp sites and fewer than 6 encounters/day on travel routes.
    - Fewer than or equal to three people per group.
    - No alteration of the natural terrain. Footprints only observed. Sounds of people rare.
  - ▶ **Operational:**
    - Foot, horse, and non-motorized float boat travel.
    - No maps or brochures available on-site. Staff is rarely present to provide on-site assistance.
    - No on-site posting/signing of visitor regulations, interpretive information or ethics. Few use restrictions
- **Back Country Classification**
  - ▶ **Physical:**
    - Within ½ mile of four-wheel drive vehicle, ATV and motorcycles routes.
    - Character of the natural landscape retained. A few modifications contrast with character of the landscape (e.g. fences, primitive roads).

- Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments and basic toilets.
- ▶ Social:
  - 3-6 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., campsites) and 7-15 encounters/day on travel routes
  - 4-6 people per group.
  - Areas of alteration uncommon. Little surface vegetation wear observed. Sounds of people infrequent.
- ▶ Operational:
  - Mountain bikes and perhaps other mechanized use, but all is non-motorized.
  - Basic maps, staff infrequently present (e.g. seasonally, high use periods) to provide on-site assistance.
  - Basic user regulations at key access points. Minimum use restrictions.
- Middle Country Classification:
  - ▶ Physical:
    - Within ½ mile of four-wheel drive vehicle, ATV and motorcycles routes.
    - Character of the natural landscape retained. A few modifications contrast with character of the landscape (e.g. fences, primitive roads).
    - Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments and basic toilets.
  - ▶ Social:
    - 7-14 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., staging areas) and 15-29 encounters/ day on travel routes
    - 7-12 people per group.
    - Small areas of alteration. Surface vegetation showing wear with some bare soils. Sounds of people occasionally heard.
  - ▶ Operational
    - Four-wheel drives, all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, or snowmobiles in addition to non-motorized, mechanized use.
    - Area brochures and maps, staff is occasionally (e.g. most weekends) present to provide on-site assistance.
    - Some regulatory and ethics signing. Moderate use restrictions. (e.g. camping, human waste).
- Front Country Classification
  - ▶ Physical:
    - Within ½ mile of low-clearance or passenger vehicle routes (includes unpaved County roads and private land routes).

- Character of the natural landscape partially modified but none overpower natural landscape (e.g. roads, structures, utilities).
  - Rustic facilities such as campsites, restrooms, trailheads, and interpretive displays.
- ▶ Social:
  - 15-29 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., campgrounds) and 30 or more encounters/day on travel routes.
  - 13-25 people per group.
  - Small areas of alteration prevalent. Surface vegetation gone with compacted soils observed. Sounds of people regularly heard
- ▶ Operational:
  - Two-wheel drive vehicles predominant, but also four wheel drives and non-motorized, mechanized use.
  - Information materials describe recreation areas & activities, staff periodically present (e.g. weekdays & weekends).
  - Rules, regulations, and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations, and/or closures.
- Rural Classification
  - ▶ Physical:
    - Within ½ mile of paved/primary roads and highways.
    - Character of the natural landscape considerably modified (agriculture, residential or industrial).
    - Modern facilities such as campgrounds, group shelters, boat launches, and occasional exhibits.
  - ▶ Social:
    - People seem to be generally everywhere.
    - 26-50 people per group.
    - A few large areas of alteration. Surface vegetation absent with hardened soils. Sounds of people frequently heard.
  - ▶ Operational:
    - Ordinary highway auto and truck traffic is characteristic.
    - Information described to the left, plus experience and benefit descriptions, staff regularly present (e.g. almost daily).
    - Regulations strict and ethics prominent. Use may be limited by permit, reservation, etc.
- Urban Classification
  - ▶ Physical:
    - Within ½ mile of streets and roads within municipalities and along highways.
    - Urbanized developments dominate landscape.

- Elaborate full-service facilities such as laundry, restaurants, and groceries.
- ▶ Social:
  - Busy place with other people constantly in view.
  - Greater than 50 people per group.
  - Large areas of alteration prevalent. Some erosion. Constantly hear people.
- ▶ Operational:
  - Wide variety of street vehicles and highway traffic is ever-present.
  - Information described to the left, plus regularly scheduled on-site outdoor demonstrations and clinics.
  - Enforcement in addition to rules to reduce conflicts, hazards, and resource damage.

**REGENERATION:** The act of renewing tree cover by establishing young trees naturally or artificially.

**REIS:** Regional Economic Information System (REIS). This is an information system used by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**RELEVANT VALUE:** As related to ACECs, a relevant value is a significant historic, cultural, or scenic value; a fish or wildlife resource or other natural system or process; or natural hazard. (43 CFR 1610.7-2(a)(1))

**RELICT PLANT COMMUNITY:** A remnant or fragment of vegetation remaining from a former period when the vegetation was more widely distributed.

**RE-PLAT:** When tracts of land are changed by avulsion or accretion of land due to changes in river channels it may be necessary to re-survey and map the altered landscape to reflect current conditions. Lots previously described may be removed from the Master Title Plat and new lots platted in their place.

**RESERVE ALLOTMENTS:** A separate BLM administered grazing unit (allotment or pasture), that is reserved for nonrenewable grazing use by permittees/lessees or others participating in land restoration or recovery efforts that preclude use of all or part of the permitted use assigned to their base property.

**RESILIENCE:** The capacity of a plant community or ecosystem to maintain or regain normal function and development following disturbance.

**RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC):** A council established by the Secretary of the Interior to provide advice or recommendations to BLM management (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP):** A land use plan as described by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. The RMP generally establishes in a written document: (1) land uses for limited, restricted or exclusive use; designations, including ACEC designation; and transfer from BLM administration; (2) allowable resource uses (either singly or in a combination) and related levels of production or use to be maintained; (3) resource condition goals and objectives to be attained; (4) program constraints and general management practices needed to achieve the above items; (5) need for an area to be covered by more detailed and specific plans; (6) support action, including such measures as resource protection, access, development, realty action, cadastral survey, etc., as necessary to meet the above; (7) general implementation sequences in which carrying out a planned action; and (8) intervals and standards for monitoring and evaluating the plan to determine the effectiveness of the plan and the need for amendment or revision. (43 CFR 1601.0-5(k))

**REST ROTATION:** A grazing system, or plan that rests (and defers) use in specific pasture(s) in an allotment on an annual basis. The number of years between rest for a pasture depends on the number pastures in the allotment.

**REVISION:** The process of completely rewriting the land use plan due to changes in the planning area affecting major portions of the plan or the entire plan.

**RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW):** Public lands authorized to be used or occupied for specific purposes pursuant to a right-of-way grant, which are in the public interest and which require ROWs over, on, under, or through such lands. A 44LD513 ROW is a ROW that BLM issues to itself.

**RIGHT-OF-WAY CORRIDOR:** A parcel of land that has been identified by law, Secretarial order, through a LUP or by other management decision as being the preferred location for existing and future ROW grants and suitable to accommodate one type of ROW or one or more ROWs that are similar, identical or compatible. The purpose of establishing ROW corridors is to encourage the concentration of utilities in a defined area to reduce the proliferation of multiple single-user rights of way, and to reduce the extent of environmental impact analysis for each separate right-of-way proposal.

**RIPARIAN AREA:** A form of wetland transition between permanently saturated wetlands and upland areas. Riparian areas exhibit vegetation or physical characteristics that reflect the influence of permanent surface or subsurface water. Typical riparian areas include lands along, adjacent to, or contiguous with perennially and intermittently flowing rivers and streams, glacial potholes, and the shores of lakes and reservoirs with stable water levels. Excluded are ephemeral streams or washes that lack vegetation and depend on free water in the soil.

**RIVER:** As defined in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, “river” means a flowing body of water or estuary or section, portion, or tributary thereof, including rivers, streams, creeks, runs, kills, rills, and small lakes.

**ROAD:** A linear route declared a road by the owner, managed for use by low clearance vehicles having four or more wheels, and maintained for regular and continuous use.

- Closed
- Limited
- Open
- Permanent Road

**ROADED NATURAL:** As defined in the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, roaded natural recreation is managed to provide a natural-appearing environment with moderate evidence of humans. Motor vehicle use is permitted and facilities for this use are provided. Activities include wood gathering, downhill skiing, fishing, OHV driving, interpretive uses, picnicking, and vehicle camping.

**ROCK ART:** A generic term used to describe both petroglyphs (carvings) and/or pictographs (paintings).

**ROTATION:** Livestock rotations from one pasture to the next (in an allotment) at specified times of the year.

**ROUTES:** Multiple roads, trails and primitive roads; a group or set of roads, trails, and primitive roads that represents less than 100 percent of the BLM transportation system. Generically, components of the transportation system are described as “routes.”

**RURAL:** As defined in the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, rural recreation is managed to provide a setting that is substantially modified with moderate to high evidence of civilization. Motor vehicle use is permitted and visitor conveniences may be provided. Activities are facility/vehicle dependent and include sightseeing, horseback riding, road biking, golf, swimming, picnicking, and outdoor games.

**SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT – GENERAL HABITAT AREAS:** Areas with or without on-going or imminent impacts containing sage-grouse habitat outside of the priority areas. Management actions would maintain habitat for sustainable sage-grouse populations to promote movement and genetic diversity. Areas are delineated based on sage-grouse habitat.

**SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT – PROTECTION PRIORITY AREAS:** Areas with limited impacts containing substantial and high quality sage-grouse habitat that support sustainable sage-grouse populations. Management actions would emphasize the protection and enhancement of sustainable sage-grouse populations. Areas are delineated by using “key”, “core” and connectivity data/maps and other resource information.

**SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT – RESTORATION AREAS:** Areas with on-going or imminent impacts containing substantial and high quality sage-grouse habitat that historically supported sustainable sage-grouse populations. Management actions would emphasize

restoration for the purpose of establishing or restoring sustainable sage-grouse populations. Areas are delineated by using “key,” “core,” and connectivity data/maps and other resource information.

**SAPLING:** A young tree larger than a seedling, but smaller than a pole.

**SCENIC BYWAYS:** Highway routes that have roadsides or corridors of special aesthetic, cultural, or historical value. An essential part of the highway is its scenic corridor. The corridor may contain outstanding scenic vistas, unusual geologic features, or other natural elements.

**SCENIC QUALITY RATINGS:** The relative scenic quality (A, B, or C) assigned a landscape by applying the scenic quality evaluation key factors; scenic quality A being the highest rating, B a moderate rating, and C the lowest rating. The evaluation factors are landform, vegetation, water, color, adjacent scenery, scarcity, and cultural modifications. (M-8400, Visual Resource Management)

**SCENIC RIVER:** A river or section of a river that is free of impoundments and whose shorelines are largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads.

**SCOPING:** An early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and or identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action. This effort involves the participation of affected federal, state, and local agencies, and any affected Native American tribe, the proponent of the action, and other interested persons, unless there is a limited expectation under 40 CFR 1507.3I.

**SEASON OF USE:** The period of time during which livestock grazing is permitted on a given allotment, as specified in the mandatory terms and conditions of the grazing lease or permit.

**SECTION 7 CONSULTATION:** A part or section of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), called “Interagency Cooperation”, is the mechanism by which Federal agencies ensure the actions they take, including those they fund or authorize, do not jeopardize the existence of any listed species.

**SECTION 106 COMPLIANCE:** The requirement of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act that any project that the Federal Government funds, licenses, permits, or assists be reviewed for impacts on significant historic properties and that the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be allowed to comment on a project.

**SEEDLING:** A young plant or tree grown from a seed.

**SEMI-PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED:** As defined in the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, semi-primitive motorized recreation is managed to provide a natural-appearing environment

with evidence of humans and management controls present, but subtle. Means of access include motorized vehicles and mountain bicycles.

**SEMI-PRIMITIVE NON-MOTORIZED:** As defined in the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, semi-primitive non-motorized recreation is managed to be largely free from evidence of humans and onsite controls. Motor vehicle use is not permitted (except as authorized). Facilities for the administration of livestock and for visitor use are allowed but limited. Means of access include hiking, cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, non-motorized boating, and horseback riding.

**SENSITIVE SPECIES:** Species that require special management consideration to avoid potential future listing under the ESA and that have been identified in accordance with procedures set forth in this manual (6840 Manual). Those species designated by a State Director, usually in cooperation with the state agency responsible for managing the species and State Natural heritage programs, as sensitive. They are those species that (1) could become endangered in or extirpated from a state, or within a significant portion of its distribution; (2) are under status review by the FWS and/or NMFS; (3) are undergoing significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution; (4) are undergoing significant current or predicted downward trends in population or density such that federal listed, proposed, candidate, or state-listed status may become necessary; (5) typically have small and widely dispersed populations; (6) inhabit ecological refugia or other specialized or unique habitats; or (7) are state listed but that may be better conserved through application of BLM-sensitive species status (M6840, Special Status Species Manual).

**SERIAL (state or stage):** One of three successional states based on the current composition of the vegetative community. States include early, mid and late seral states culminating in a climax community. Transition from one state to the next can be natural or induced. Induced transition is typically disturbance induced and can be progressive or retrogressive. Natural succession from one stage to the next is typically progressive, culminating in the climax community. "Climax community" is often used synonymously with terms such as Potential Natural Community (PNC) and Potential Natural Vegetation (PNV) and is the highest potential vegetative community that the site will support.

**SETTING CHARACTER:** See Recreation Setting Character.

**SIGNIFICANT:** An effect that is analyzed in the context of the proposed action to determine the degree or magnitude of importance of the effect, whether beneficial or adverse. The degree of significance can be related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

**SILVICULTURE:** The art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health, and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis.

**SITE:** The combination of biotic, climatic, topographic, and soil conditions of an area.

**SITE PREPARATION:** Hand or mechanized manipulation of a site, designed to enhance the success of regeneration.

**SOCIOECONOMIC STUDY AREA:** The geographic area used for estimation and analysis of economic and social impacts.

**SOLITUDE:** Visitors may have outstanding opportunities for solitude, or primitive and unconfined types of recreation when the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people are rare or infrequent, where visitors can be isolated, alone, or secluded from others, where the use of the area is through non-motorized, non-mechanical means, and where no or minimal developed recreation facilities are encountered in an area of 5,000 acres or greater (from IM-2003-275, Change 1, Considerations of Wilderness Characteristics in LUP, Attachment 1).

**SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (SRMA):** A public lands unit identified in land use plans to direct recreation funding and personnel to fulfill commitments made to provide specific, structured recreation opportunities. SRMAs are managed to protect and enhance a targeted set of activities, experiences, benefits, and desired recreation setting characteristics.

**SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT (SRP):** Is an authorization which allow specified and often time-restricted recreational uses of the public lands and related waters. Permits are administered under the BLM Handbook H -2930 and policy is specifically provided for in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA), P.L. 108-47. They are used as a means to manage visitor use, protect natural and cultural resources, as a means to achieve the goals and objectives of the Field Office recreation program as outlined in a land use plan, and as a mechanism to authorize the types of described as follows:

- Commercial use
- Competitive
- Vending
- Special area use
- Organized Use
- Commercial Filming Permits in conjunction with an SRP.

**SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES:** Collectively, federally listed or proposed and Bureau sensitive species (BLM State Director designated sensitive species), which include both Federal candidate species and delisted species within 5 years of delisting. (BLM Manual 6840, Special Status Species Management). (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**SPLIT ESTATE:** Surface land and mineral estate of a given area under different ownerships. Frequently, the surface will be privately owned and the minerals federally owned.

**SPLIT SEASON:** Removing livestock from the allotment and returning them later in the year within the permitted time.

**SPOT TREATMENT:** An application of an herbicide to a small selected area as opposed to broadcast application.

**STANDARD:** A description of the physical and biological conditions or degree of function required for healthy, sustainable lands (e.g., Land Health Standards). To be expressed as a desired outcome (goal). (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook)

**STANDARDS FOR RANGELAND HEALTH:** Descriptions of the desired condition of the biological and physical components and characteristics of rangeland. The four standards deal with upland soils, riparian and wetland areas, desired species, and water quality.

**STAND DENSITY:** A quantitative measure of stocking expressed either absolutely in terms of number of trees, basal area or volume per unit area or relative to some standard condition.

**STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:** A detailed description of the programs a state will use to carry out its responsibilities under the Clean Air Act.

**STATE LISTED SPECIES:** Species listed by a state in a category implying but not limited to potential endangerment or extinction. Listing is either by legislation or regulation. (M-6840, Special Status Species Manual)

**STIPULATIONs:** Requirements that are part of the terms of various types of leases. Some stipulations are standard on all federal leases. Other stipulations may be applied to the lease at the discretion of the surface management agency to protect valuable surface resources and uses.

**SUITABLE RIVER:** A Wild and Scenic River determination where a river or river segment is evaluated in the land use planning process and recommended for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System. Suitability may vary by alternative based on theme of the alternative.

**SUPPRESSED:** A tree condition characterized by low growth rate and low vigor as a result of competition.

**SUPPRESSION:** Actions taken to extinguish or reduce the intensity or extent of wildland fires, including the construction of fuel breaks by manual or mechanical means, ground or aerial application of water or water/chemical mixtures, ignition of backfires or burning out of fuels increase the size of fuel breaks.

**SUSTAINED SLOPE:** A slope, measured the length of an incline, where short variances within the slope do not affect the overall grade.

**SURFACE DISTURBING ACTIVITIES or SURFACE DISTURBANCE:** The physical disturbance or removal of land surface and vegetation. Some examples of surface-disturbing activities include, but are not limited to, construction of roads, well pads, pipelines, powerlines, reservoirs, facilities, recreation sites, and mining. Vegetation renovation treatments that involve soil penetration and/or substantial mechanical damage to plants (plowing, chiseling, chopping, etc.) are also surface-disturbing activities.

**SURFACE OCCUPANCY:** Placement or construction of the land surface (temporary or permanent) for more than 14 days requiring continual service or maintenance. Casual use is excluded.

**SUSTAINABILITY:** Long-term management of ecosystems to meet the needs of present human populations without interruption, weakening, or loss of the resource base for future generations. (EPA)

**SUSTAINED YIELD:** The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high-level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the public lands consistent with multiple use.

**TAKE:** For the purposes of the endangered species act, the term “take” means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or to attempt to engage in any such conduct (Endangered Species Act of 1973).

**TEMPORARY DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES:** Activities that involve human presence or activities to be in crucial habitats for less than one hour during a 24-hour period in a site specific area. (MT-IM-2010-017, 11-30-09, “Guidance of Greater Sage Grouse Management and Conservation in RMP’s in Management Zones 1 & 2 within Montana / Dakotas BLM”, Attachment 3, Definitions

**TERRITORY:** The USFS geographic area identified as having been used by a herd as its habitat in 1971 at the passage of the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act (PL 92-195) as amended.

**THINNING:** A cultural treatment made to reduce stand density of trees primarily to improve growth, enhance forest health, or recover potential mortality.

**THREATENED SPECIES:** Any species that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range (BLM Manual 6840, Special Status Species Management).

**TIMING LIMITATION (seasonal restriction):** A restriction on permitted activities which allows certain activities during specific periods to avoid the disturbance of plant or animal species during critical periods of the life cycle including, mating, parturition, or periods of environmental stress caused by limited food supplies or extreme temperatures.

**TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL):** An estimate of the total quantity of pollutants (from all sources: point, nonpoint, and natural) that may be allowed into waters without exceeding applicable water quality criteria.

**TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTY:** A property that derives significance from traditional values associated with it by a social or cultural group, such as an Indian tribe or local community. A traditional cultural property may qualify for the National Register of Historic Places if it meets the criteria and criteria exceptions at 36 CFR 60.4. See National Register Bulletin 38.

**TRANSPORTATION LINEAR FEATURES:** “Linear features” represents the broadest category of physical disturbance (planned and unplanned) on BLM land. Transportation related linear features include engineered roads and trails, as well as user-defined, non-engineered roads and trails created as a result of the public use of BLM land. Linear features may include roads and trails identified for closure or removal as well as those that make up the BLM’s defined transportation system.

**TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM:** The sum of the BLM’s recognized inventory of linear features (roads, primitive roads, and trails) formally recognized, designated, and approved as part of the BLM’s transportation system.

**TRAVEL MANAGEMENT AREAS:** Polygons or delineated areas where a rational approach has been taken to classify areas open, closed or limited, and have identified and/or designated a network of roads, trails, ways, and other routes that provide for public access and travel across the planning area. All designated travel routes within travel management areas should have a clearly identified need and purpose as well as clearly defined activity types, modes of travel, and seasons or timeframes for allowable access or other limitations (BLM Manual H1601-1 Land Use Planning Handbook).

Travel Management Areas - definitions of terminology used on Travel Management Area maps and in Chapter 2 Travel Management Area Alternatives comparison

- Open to all Vehicles (O): Route is open to all uses without any stipulations or restrictions
- Open with Additional Management (MO): Route is open to all uses with some forms of additional management, such as adaptive management monitoring or specific mitigations, monitoring, or maintenance.
- Open with Restrictions – Seasonal (ML or L) – Pryors: Route is open to all uses with seasonal restrictions. There may be some forms of additional management such as adaptive management monitoring or specific mitigation, monitoring, or maintenance.
- Open with Restrictions – Conditional (ML or L) – Shepherd: Route is open to all uses except during periods of high soil moisture/high erosion potential, during which time route will be closed to all motorized uses. There may be some forms of additional management such as adaptive management monitoring or specific mitigation, monitoring, or maintenance.

- Open to Technical 4WD by Permit Only (Alt C) – (Open with Restrictions – Vehicle Type (ML or L)) – Horsethief: Open to modified 4wd vehicles with special event permit only. There may be some forms of additional management such as adaptive management monitoring or specific mitigation, monitoring, or maintenance.
- Open to Motorcycles Only (Open with Restrictions – Vehicle Type (ML or L)): Route is open to Motorcycles. There may be some forms of additional management such as adaptive management monitoring or specific mitigation, monitoring, or maintenance.
- Open to Vehicles 50" or Less (Open with Restriction – Vehicle Type (ML or L)): Route is open to vehicles 50" wide or less. There may be some forms of additional management such as adaptive management monitoring or specific mitigation, monitoring, or maintenance.
- Administrative Use Only (L or ML): Route limited to administrative or authorized use only. There may be some forms of additional management such as adaptive management monitoring or specific mitigation, monitoring, or maintenance.
- Closed to All Vehicles (C): Route is closed to all uses, including non-motorized uses, in that a trail or route would not be officially recognized or maintained.
- Non-motorized Use Only: Route is limited to non-motorized use only (closed to all motorized uses). There may be some forms of additional management such as adaptive management monitoring or specific mitigation, monitoring, or maintenance.

**TRIBAL TRUST RESOURCES:** Those natural resources, either on or off Indian lands, retained by, or reserved by or for Indian tribes, through treaties, statutes, judicial decisions, and executive orders, which are protected by a fiduciary obligation on the part of the United States.

**UNALLOTTED LANDS:** Public lands available for grazing that currently have no livestock grazing authorized.

**UNDERTAKING:** A project, activity, or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a federal agency, including those carried out by or on behalf of a federal agency; those carried out with federal financial assistance; those requiring a federal permit, license, or approval; and those subject to state or local regulation administered pursuant to a delegation or approval by a federal agency.

**UNSUITABILITY CRITERIA:** Criteria of the federal coal management program by which lands may be assessed as unsuitable for all or certain stipulated methods of coal mining. (43 CFR 4300)

**URBAN:** As defined in the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, urban recreation is managed to provide a setting that is largely modified. Large numbers of users can be expected, and

vegetation cover is often exotic and manicured. Facilities for highly intensified motor vehicle use and parking are available, with mass transit often included to carry people throughout the site.

**USER DAY:** Any calendar day, or portion thereof, for each individual accompanied or serviced by an operator or permittee on the public lands or related waters; synonymous with passenger day or participant day.

**UTILITY:** A service that a public utility provides (e.g., electricity, telephone or water).

**UTILITY CORRIDOR:** A parcel of land, linear or aerial in character, that has been identified by law, Secretarial Order, the land-use planning process, or by other management decisions, as being a preferred location for existing and future ROW grants and suitable to accommodate more than one type of ROW or one or more ROW that are similar, identical, or compatible.

**VALID EXISTING RIGHTS:** Legal “rights” or interest that are associated with land or mineral estate and that cannot be divested from the estate until that interest expires, is relinquished, or acquired. Various laws, leases, and filings under federal law establish valid existing rights.

**VEGETATION TYPE:** A plant community with distinguishable characteristics described by the dominant vegetation present.

**VISIBILITY (air quality):** A measure of the ability to see and identify objects at different distances.

**VISITOR USE:** Visitor use of a resource for inspiration, stimulation, solitude, relaxation, education, pleasure, or satisfaction.

**VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (VRM):** A system by which BLM inventories and manages scenic values and visual quality of public lands. The system is based on research that has produced ways of accessing aesthetic qualities of the landscape in objective terms. In RMPs, lands are assigned management classes, which determine the amount of modification allowed for the basic elements of the landscape.

**VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES:** A process to define the degree of acceptable visual change within a characteristic landscape. Visual Resources are inventoried using procedures established in the BLM Handbook H-8410-1 and are managed under the guidelines in BLM Handbook H-8431. A class is based on the physical and sociological characteristics of any given homogeneous area and serves as a management objective. Categories assigned to public lands are based on scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zones. Each class has an objective that prescribes the amount of change allowed in the characteristic landscape (from H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook). The four classes are described below:

- Class I provides for natural ecological changes with very little management activity. This class includes primitive areas, some natural areas, some wild and scenic rivers, and other similar areas where landscape modification activities should be restricted.
- Class II areas are those areas where changes in any of the basic elements (form, line, color, or texture) caused by management activity should not be evident in the characteristic landscape. The goal is to retain the existing landscape character.
- Class III includes areas where changes in the basic elements (form, line, color, or texture) caused by a management activity may be evident in the characteristic landscape. The level of change from an activity should not dominate the landscape, but may attract attention of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic landscape elements.
- Class IV applies to areas where changes may subordinate the original composition and character; however, they should reflect what could be a natural occurrence within the characteristic landscape, if possible. The level of change to the existing landscape can be high and may dominate the view. This class provides for management activities which require modification to the existing landscape character. .

**WAIVER:** Permanent exemption from a lease stipulation. The stipulation no longer applies anywhere within the leasehold.

**WATER QUALITY:** The chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

**WAY:** A vehicle route within a WSA that was in existence and inventoried during the FLPMA Section 603-mandated wilderness inventory. Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review (H-8550-1) defines a way as “a track maintained solely by the passage of vehicles, which has not been improved and/or maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use.” The term is also used during wilderness inventory to identify routes that are not roads. The term is developed from the definition of the term “roadless” provided in the Wilderness Inventory Handbook (September 27, 1978), as follows: “roadless: refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.” A trace maintained solely by the passage of vehicles which has not been improved and /or maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use. (Interim Management Policy for lands under Wilderness review- IMP, H -8550-1).

**WETLANDS:** Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water often and long enough to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

**WILD AND SCENIC RIVER:** Rivers identified in Section 5 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 for study as potential additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The rivers will be studied under the provisions of Section 4 of the act (from M-8351, BLM WSR Policy and Program).

**WILDERNESS:** A congressionally designated area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, that is protected and managed to preserve its natural conditions and that (1) generally appears to have been affected mainly by the forces of nature, with human imprints substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5,000 acres or is large enough to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value. The definition is contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891) (from H-6310-1, Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures). These lands are included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

**WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS:** Wilderness characteristics include size, the appearance of naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude, or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. They may also include ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. A complete definition is contained in Section 2 (c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat 891)

**WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSAs):** Areas designated as having wilderness characteristics as described in Section 2 (c) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 891), made through the inventory and study process authorized by Section 603 or Section 202 of FLPMA. Areas designated as WSAs must be managed as being under wilderness review until Congress either designates these lands as wilderness or releases them for other purposes. They are not managed as if they are already designated Wilderness, but as not to impair their suitability for potential designation by Congress. If the lands are released from wilderness review, they are managed under the general BLM management policies and applicable land use plans.

**WILDFIRE:** An unplanned, unwanted wildland fire, including unauthorized human-caused fires, escaped prescribed fire projects, and all other wildland fires where the objective is to put out the fire.

**WILD HORSE RANGE:** An area of land designated from a herd management area to be managed principally, but not exclusively, for wild horse or burro herds.

**WILD HORSES AND BURROS:** Unbranded and unclaimed horses and burros that use the public lands as all or part of their habitat or that have been removed from these lands by the authorized officer but have not lost their status under Section 3 of the Act (H-4750-2, BLM Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Handbook)

**WILD LANDS:** A designation resulting from a plan decision to protect lands with wilderness characteristics (LWC) located outside of the Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) and Wilderness Areas. Wild land protection measures are developed in the course of plan development BLM is required under Section 201 of FLPMA to conduct and maintain a current inventory of natural resources. BLM conducts its wilderness characteristics inventory through the BLM Manual 6301 and incorporates the findings in the RMP through its Manual 6302. These manuals implement Secretarial Order 3310 and incorporates principles from BLM guidance (ex: Organic Act directives) and legal rules developed as part of BLM's original wilderness inventories.

**WILDLAND FIRE:** Any fire, regardless of ignition source, that is burning outside of a prescribed fire and any fire burning on public lands or threatening public land resources, where no fire prescription standards have been prepared. (H-1742-1, BLM Emergency Fire Rehabilitation Handbook)

**WILDLAND FIRE USE:** The management of naturally ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific pre-stated resource management objectives in predefined geographic areas outlined in Fire Management Plans.

**WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE (WUI):** The line, area, or zone in which structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

**WILD RIVER:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.

**WILD, SCENIC, OR RECREATIONAL:** The term used for what is traditionally shortened to wild and scenic rivers. Designated river segments are classified as wild, scenic, or recreational but cannot overlap (from M-8351, BLM WSR Policy and Program).

**WINTER RANGE:** Range that is grazed by livestock or wildlife during the winter.

**WITHDRAWAL:** An action that restricts the use of public lands by removing them from the operation of some or all of the public land laws (e.g. mineral rights).

**WOODLAND:** A community of trees that are often small, characteristically short-boled relative to their crown depth and forming only an open canopy with the intervening area being occupied by a lower vegetation type.